

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing information relating to a telecommunication call, in a telecommunication network, to a data storage system, the method comprising:

receiving caller identity information at an exchange of the network during a call set-up procedure between a calling device and the exchange, and storing the information at least temporarily at the exchange;

sending an incoming call alert message to a called device; and

prior to receiving a call answer message at the exchange, or in direct response to receipt of a call answer message, outputting from the exchange to said data storage system a Call Data Record containing at least the received and stored caller identity information.

b1
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the telecommunication network comprises a cellular radio telephone network and the call is made from a cellular radio telephone device.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the cellular radio telephone network is a GSM network and said exchange from which the Call Data Record is output is a Mobile Switching Center, the method comprising

outputting from the Mobile Switching Center at least one of the subscriber telephone number, IMEI code, or IMSI code.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the telecommunication network comprises a fixed access network in which telephone device is coupled to the exchange via land lines, the method comprising outputting from the exchange at least the caller's telephone number (A-number).

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 and comprising outputting said call data record to an external billing system.

6. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for providing information relating to a telecommunication call, in a telecommunication network, to a data storage system [[(10)]], the apparatus comprising:

first receiving means [[(8)]] for receiving caller identity information at an exchange [[(1)]] of the network during a call set-up procedure between a calling device [[(4)]] and the exchange [[(1)]], and for storing the information at least temporarily at the exchange [[(1)]]; b1

transmitting means [[(9)]] for transmitting an incoming call alert message to a called device [[(5)]]; b1

second receiving means [[(9)]] for receiving, in the event that the called device [[(5)]] answers or otherwise accepts the incoming call alert, a call answer message sent to the exchange [[(1)]]; and

output means [[(11)]] for outputting, prior to or in response to receipt of said call answer message, from the exchange [[(1)]] to said data storage system [[(10)]], a Call Data Record containing at least the received and stored caller identity information.

7. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said first and second receiving means [[(8,9)]], said transmitting means [[(9)]]], and said output means [[(11)]] are provided as an integral part of the network exchange [[(1)]], and said data storage system (10) is physically separate from the exchange [[(1)]].

8. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 6, the network comprising a cellular radio telephone network and said exchange [[(1)]] being a Mobile Switching Centre (MSC) of the cellular network.

9. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network having a plurality of interconnected exchanges for routing calls in the network, and a billing system coupled to each of said exchanges, each exchange comprising:

first receiving means [[(8)]] for receiving caller identity information during a call set-up procedure between a calling device [[(4)]] and the exchange [[(1)]], and for storing the information at least temporarily at the exchange [[(1)]]; (6)

transmitting means [[(9)]] for transmitting an incoming call alert message to a called device [[(5)]] or to a called device [[(5)]] via one or more further exchanges [[(1)]]; (6)

second receiving means [[(9)]] for receiving, in the event that the called device [[(5)]] answers or otherwise accepts the incoming call alert, a call answer message sent to the exchange [[(1)]]; and (6)

output means [[(11)]] for outputting, prior to or in response to receipt of said call answer message, from the exchange [[(1)]] to a data storage system (10), a Call Data Record containing at least the received and stored caller identity information.